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THE NEED FOR A "RATIONAL ALMANAC." By MOSES B. COTSWORTH, F.G.S. OF YORK, ENGLAND.

Presented by SIR SANDFORD FLEMING, K.C.M.G., &c.

Subject brought to mind by commercial necessities and present waste calculations. Primitive Tribes slowly developed crude methods to locate the Seasons as needs for sowing seeds, &c., arose when settled communities began. Illustrations:—(1) Almanac Sticks and Mounds used by North American Indians. (2) Moonsticks notched by Fiji Islanders. (3) Seasonal Sunrise and Sunset pointing Monoliths Poles or Rods as used by Jacob and the Ancient Druids. (4) Season indicating Poles raised by the Natives of Borneo, &c., to co-relate days, months and years. Weeks varied. Origin of 7 days week, Meredian Line, North Pole, &c., for Almanac purposes.

As settled populations increased, improved methods such as Obelisks, Pyramids, and other Gnomons were invented to locate the agricultural Seasons by observing the varying lengths of shadows cast by the Sun, as in Babylonia, Egypt, China, Mexico, &c.

Arabians and Romans, counted 10 moons as year, until Numa, about 713 B.C., added January and February. Julius Caesar, in 45 B.C., found Almanac had drifted 80 days out of Seasons and reformed the months to alternate 30 and 31 days to give fixity to the year. Augustus Caesar moved 1 day from February to August, making 3rd Quarter 93 days, and 1st Quarter, 90. That upset calculations for Rent, Interest, &c., which caused public outcry. To sustain his pride from publicly acknowledging Julius Cæsar's superior plan, Augustus took 1 day each from September and November, to make the 31st of October and 31st December. Thus the pride and arrogance of Augustus Cæsar has during 1,900 years inflicted the inequalities of 90, 91, 92, 92, days in the Quarters of the year, and the disparity of 3 days between the 181 days in the 1st half, and the 184 days in the last half of the years.

Those inequalities not only disturb the computations for Interest, Rents, &c., but they unequalize the annual sub-divisions of salaries &c., and have a far more potent effect upon the most desired Net Earnings of large Railway and other Corporations whose influences are yearly becoming more powerful, *e.g.*—The 3 days difference between the half years inflate the Dividends for the Half years ending Dec. 31st, by about 2%, and that disparity is further disturbed by the present needless changing of the week-day names for the days throughout successive years, owing to the odd 53rd week-day beyond 52 weeks recurring on the last day of each year. Those with the inequalities of the months cause Stocks and Shares to vary in value beyond trade variations, giving rise to Stock Exchange gambling, and with their attendant evils inflict loss upon thrifty workers variously paid by the week and month, paying Rents and other charges by the existing unequal months, which cannot be equated by the indespensable week that divides February alone into the 4 weeks best suited to modern requirements.

The difference between the 28 days of February and 31 days in January and March, approximates 11% and renders accurate comparisons impracticable, whilst fair adjustments can only be approximated after elaborate calculations are made. Similar difficulties arise from the disparities between the other months of the year. They cannot be truly compared either with each other, nor with the corresponding months in preceding years, because their week-day earning times are different. Those differences are developing serious drawbacks in all kinds of Statistical work and investigations dependent thereon, such as the growing need for the exact ascertainment of the costs of production per ton or per article, the costs of transportation required by Railway, Canal, and Shipping Co's., Coal, Iron, and other Mining Co's., and Manufacturers generally. Banks, Insurance Co's., Medical, City, and Governmental Authorities, need more precise comparisons for records of immigration, births, deaths &c., best obtainable each 4 weeks.

To meet the growing need for accurately apportioning costs of production and comparison, the practice of sub-dividing salaries, wages &c., into the varying monthly payments proportionate to the number of working days in each month, has rapidly spread through the United States, "because it pays," and for that reason vitally affecting competition, it tends to spread through Canada and the World's manufacturing countries, entailing many millions of waste calculations and much inconvenience, all of which will have to be endured unless our months are adjusted in the near future to meet the controlling needs of Commerce for monthly accounts commensurate with the working week. Neither months of 30 nor 31 days can overcome the inherent difficulty of fitting the inevitable week of 7 days into any other month than that of the simple 28 days *to adequately meet public convenience*, which must dominate all other considerations.

EXISTING ANOMALIES AND INCONVENIENCES:—Months unequal, involving fractions of weeks, changing week day names for dates, Christmas and other Festivals, Fairs, &c.; disturbing Market Days, Periods for Legislative, Law, University & School Terms; Stock Exchange Settlements, Payment Days for Bills of Exchange, Trade Accounts (now being tried at 28 and 30 days); moves dates of recurring business and social engagements, &c.; causes financial trouble to retail trades people, and householders, when 5 week-end payments for Groceries, Rent, &c., are required out of a monthly incomes or monthly rents out of weekly wages—Sunday moves EMPIRE DAY, &c.

The changing week-day names through dates of the year, and fractions of the week beyond the 28 days each month cause the trouble and confuse ideas of Time.

TWO MAIN REMEDIES ARE NEEDED:—(1) Treat "Christmas Day," or "New Year's Day," or the 365th day of the year as a holiday without either week-day name or monthly date. and likewise raise Leap Day to be a *Holiday*, without either week-day name or monthly date. (2) Arrange the most convenient regularly recurring month of 4 weeks in 4 quarters.

Various plans have been suggested as compared overleaf, but as investigators have almost unanimously been led to realize the world-wide advantages which would result in every-day-convenience to us all if the odd 365th day of the year (beyond the 52 weeks of 7 days) could be calendared without a week-day name to obviate the changing week-day names of dates through successive years, by simply naming "Christmas" or "New Year's" Day apart from week-day names; which of the two is best may be left as a matter of detail for an International Conference to decide. Similarly the minor question of the proposed fixity of Easter may suitably be left open for the Churches to consider as the masses of the people evidence desire for a permanent Almanac, bearing in mind the main point that the Church and Sabbath were made for men, and not men for those worthy Institutions.

Julius Cæsar accidentally fixed "New Year's Day" 10 days after the natural year's-end on Dec. 22nd "(Old Yuletide)", because it then marked *the first New Moon after the Winter Solstice*. That was necessary when his Nation used Moon-months as the American Indians still do. When the Roman year was 80 days out of Season he dare not perpetuate bad harvests by waiting years till the New Moon rose on Dec. 22nd.—Similarly "Christmas" seems to have been fixed not by the birthday of the Christ, but by the then New Moon nearest "Yuletide," to facilitate the assemblage of the moon-observing people (who had not Almanacs)to mark the new Festival and secure popularity by linking with it their cherished "Yule-Tide" Festivities.

The ideal world-wide reform would be to adopt nature's year ending Dec. 22nd, and that 365th day of the year as the Public Holiday "Christmas Day" without a week-day name; in the most internationally convenient year when the New Moon shines on Dec. 22nd, to bring in the more than 1,000,000,000 of Chinese, Japanese and other Lunar people, such as Mahommedans, Hindoos Jews, &c., who are now realizing the inconveniences and trade loss through Lunar reckoning and the Fridays and Sundays as duplicate Sabbaths each week, now international trade is everywhere expanding. The prevailing confusion impressed me when in Jerusalem in the Winter of 1900, there were 5 Christmases and 4 New Years celebrated. Then if Jan. 1st, began the following day with Nature's year, the Christmas and New Year's Holidays of all Nations might be united, and all be led like the Japanese to accept the best for their own adyantage,—especially when that Year as the bountiful force of Nature is so manifestly indicated to all races and creeds. They will leave the troublesome wandering moon and abopt the regular Sun as the true guide through the years, as quickly as printed Almanacs based on the simple month of 4 weeks can be supplied and its daily advantages understood—as readily as we abandoned sun-dials for watches. That desirable adjustment to the *Winter Solstice* might be easily effected by leaving out "Leap-day" 10 times (or preferably 3 times and skip a week when bartering with Lunar Nations for the adoption of a Universal Almanac, and so link Russia (now 13 days behind), as the most populous Eurpoean Nation with such surely spreading force through Northern Asia, as would with European and American influences around Orientals lead to the International adoption of a "Rational Almanac" to most easily glide along with Nature.

To fit working weeks into Months and Quarters is the most important consideration to aim at in Almanac Reform. Whether that can be best done by 3 months of 30 days, plus 1 public holiday as a *dies non* each Quarter, or 2 months of 30 days plus 1 of 31 days as Mr. Philip and others have suggested (possibly without the world-wide consideration needed) or whether the 13 months of 4 weeks each, as I originally proposed in the years 1896 to 1899, or some other scheme should be adopted, are subject to discussion, and I earnestly trust that whatever is best may prevail for the public good.

After 12 years of continuous consideration and investigation in various countries, I submit for your consideration, that the present erratic months fixed by the caprice of Augustus Cæsar are becoming so irksome under the developing needs of our civilization now requiring greater convenience, that the simple month of 4 weeks (giving equal division into 13 months and 13 weeks to the quarters of every year) will prove most advantageous, and that it will ultimately become universal, for the reasons given on page 3 of the "Rational Almanac Leaflet,"—the chief of them being that it would be easiest when fixed and permanently supplying the greater convenience we should derive from having all the months uniformly containing 4 weeks, so that Sundays would be the 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd; Mondays 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, &c.; whilst the essential weekly wages, &c., would then always accord with the corresponding monthly payments. Then every Almanac purpose will be completely served for National and International use by all Nations, who might then begin the Universal Era and relieve their peoples from Almanac anomalies and inconvenience,

Forethought is necessary as the most useful and widest used "*Nautical* Almanac," based on Greenwich Time, is now Internationally adopted for Navigation throughout the World and is worked out and printed about 4 years in advance.

The main question you are asked to consider is, how far it may be made practicable during our generation, by wise concerted action, to remove existing difficulties now developing from Almanac anomalies? not only in Christian countries but throughout the world, wherein humanity could so largely be benefitted by a simple universal Almanac all could most easily adopt for mutual advantages, like "Standard Time," the benefits of which we are daily realizing. The greatest works of early Nations were employed to meet Almanac needs. Let us complete their labours and solve the problem now. Will you and your Society do what can be done to help simplify the Almanac for mutal benefit . The time is ripe for action.

Neither the Bill before the British Parliament for Reform in the year 1912, nor the one before the German Parliament, nor the changes proposed by Russia, Greece, Japan, &c., can be wisely made until an International Conference carefully decides what is best for the mutual good-will and development of all Nations.

COMPARISON OF METHODS A, B, C & D

Respectively Proposed to Simplify the Months.

A, B & C aim at equalizing the Quarters, whilst D is further designed to gain equal months of 4 weeks with fixed dates.

All are planned to provide a fixed Calendar for permanently locating equal Quarterly and Half-Yearly terms and give fixity of dates for Law, University and Public School Terms, Statutory Meetings of Public Authorities, Markets, Fairs, and Local Festivals and other anniversaryies, such as Birthdays, recurring on identical dates each year,—whilst D further provides for the desired convenience of fixed Easters and their contingent Festivals.

N.B.—All the four Methods provide for the odd day of the year as a "dies-non" and Public Holiday, and likewise for Leap-day, as Mid-Summer Holiday.

All the plans rightly begin the year with Sunday as the 1st day of the week.

A

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JAN.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	.	.	.	.	.
FEB.	.	.	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	.	.	.
MAR.	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	*

* Spring and quarterly holiday.

DESCRIPTION and NOTES.

A 12 months of 30 days each] Plus Dec. 31st as a "*dies-non,*" with 4 Quarter-days as Saturday holidays ending Winter, Spring, Summer & Autumn.

WORKDAYS—25, 26, 26 each 3 months

ADVANTAGES—Would gain fixed week days for Monthly, Quarterly, Half-Yearly, and Yearly dates with months expiring with the 3 latter. Comparisons true with corresponding periods of previous and future years

DISADVANTAGES—1st Month of each Quarter has 4% less work-day time than other months.

Fails to meet the most insistent universal daily need for a permanent month quartered by the essential week to gain fixed week-day dates for uniformly recurring weeks, months, and years, with those inevitable units expiring all together.

Almost impracticable to induce other Nations to accept 4 more holidays in addition to the many they already have.

B

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JAN.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	.	.	.	.	.
FEB.	.	.	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	.	.	.
MAR.	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

B Mr. Philip's Proposal for a Simplified Calendar.

12 months sub-divided into Quarters. consisting of 2 months of 30 days and 1 of 31 days —with New Year's Day as a "*dies-non.*"

WORKDAYS—25, 26, 27, each 3 month.

ADVANTAGES—Same as Method A., plus New Year's Day free for Festivities.

DISADVANTAGES—(1) Same as A, but in addition loses much of the International Power for Christian Countries to barter for Universal Calendar, with such great Nations as Russia, China, Japan, &c., who now use other Calendars.

(2) Needlessly transfers the extra-day from its natural inclusion in the last month of the year and makes the previous shortest Quarter the longest.

(3) Unfortunately alters the lengths of 8 of the existing months, whereas Method C gives far better results with only 5 month ends altered.

(4) Aggravates existing disparities between the months in each Quarter, as the 2nd month would then have 4% and the 3rd 8% more working days than the 1st month.—*This seems a fatal objection.*

C

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JAN.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31	.	.	.	.
FEB.	.	.	.	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	.	.
MAR.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

C 12 Month sub-divided into equal "Quarters" consisting of 31 Days in the 1st month with 30 days each for the 2nd and 3rd months—"Christmas Day" or the last day of the Year as a *dies-non.*

WORKDAYS—26 permanently in all Months.

ADVANTAGES—All those offered by A and B, with the far more practical advantage of allocating 26 working days to every month.

Ends the 1st, 2nd and 3rd months of each Quarter respectively on the Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; more easily borne in mind and accounted by us all.

DISADVANTAGES-Like Methods A & B, fails to ensure expiry of weeks at month-ends; thus moving week-day dates through each 3 months, destroying the simplicity of arrangement and easy working obtainable by adjusting the months to 4 weekly units; which provide the controlling factor needed in Almanac reform.

PERMANENT MONTH.

D

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JAN.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**
&c.	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**
	15	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**
	22	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**

Fits the year as extended on page 2 & 1st 4 weeks of A. B. & C.

D 13 Months of exactly 4 weeks with Christmas Day as a "*dies-non.*" Also fixed dates for Easter and its contingent Festivals, &c.

WORKDAYS—24—all exactly comparable like their respective monthly dates.

ADVANTAGES—

(1) Has all the advantages of methods A, B & C, except that the Quarters and Half-years do not end with the months, but with the ends of the 1st, 2nd & 3rd weeks respectively of the 4th, 7th & 10th months, thus maintaining the convenience of Quarterly and Half-yearly payments and calculations with the present 13 weeks per Quarter, consistent with 13 equal months per year.

2. The Division of 13 months into weekly Quarters is 12 times more frequently needed than Quarter years.

3. *The unrivalled and most useful advantage of 4 exact weeks in the working Month, gains regular recurrence of both weeks and months, yielding dates truly comparable, with fixed week-day names to each, as easily borne in mind all through the year as our 7 times table.*

4. Would relieve us all from the present worry and bother of numerous references to Almanacs, and dispel the current mental cogitation and uncertainty as to the days of the week for dates when daily fixing engagements.

5. Traders and Householders could more easily balance accounts monthly than they can now do yearly.

6. Would more easily and perfectly meet all Almanac needs for business and social convenience than any of the others. as it always keeps week-day names for the same dates in every month and ends all months with the week; whilst securing Business, Markets, Fairs, Public and Social arrangements undisturbed in their usual weekly course.

CONTINUATION OF D.'

DISADVANTAGES—

1. Yearly Salaries, Rents, &c., divided by 12—.083 per Dollar, whereas division by 13—.077, and though both are .003 from the simple 8 cents per month, 13 is more difficult to divide. *But that would result in the adoption of simple rates for the 13 times more frequently used months based on the most easily divisible 24 working days which would prove a for larger saving.*

2. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Quarters and 1st Half Year would not end with the month,—*but they would gain the better convenience of ending with the week, and so save split abstracting and adjustments, as periods of earnings and weekly expenses would coincide.*

3. The slight inconvenience during the initial year in which the 13 months may be introduced.—That would easily be overcome by the printed Almanacs, wherein 13 cycles of the permanent month would prove so highly useful that these minor disadvantages would scarcely be felt, as they would fall subservient to the merits of the smooth working and efficient month of 4 weeks that most completely solves our Almanac difficulties.

These disadvantages sink into insignifiance when compared with the above advantages and the world-wide gain in facilitating International commerce and intercourse.

It is suggested to our American friends that they could gain more from their National Holidays, if they were thus permanently combined with the week-ends for public convenience, by merely moving "Independence Day" one day forward, and "Thanksgiving Day" one day later, just as they now do temporarily when those Holidays fall on Sunday.

COMBINED CALENDAR for TRANSPOSING the DATES between the PRESENT and PROPOSED ALMANACS after the YEAR 1916.

Jan.	Day.	Jan.	Feb.	Day.	Feb.	Mar.	D'y.	Mar.	Apr.	Day.	Apr.	May.	Day.	M'y.	June	Day.	June	July.	Day.		Aug.	Day.	July.	Sept.	Day.	Aug.	Oct.	Day.	Sept.	Nov.	Day.	Oct.	Dec.	Day.	Nov.
1	S	1	1	W	4	1	W	4	1	S	7	1	M	9	1	T	12	1	S	14	1	T	17	1	F	20	1	S	22	1	W	25	1	F	27
2	M	2	2	T	5	2	T	5	2		8	2		10	2	F	13	2	S	15	2	W	18	2	S	21	2	M	23	2	T	26	2	S	28
3	T	3	3	F	6	3	F	6	3	M	9	3	W	11	3	S	14	3	M	16	3	T	19	3	S	22	3	T	24	3		27			Dec
4	W	4	4	S	7	4	S	7	4	T	10	4	T	12	4	S	15	4	T	17	4	F	20	4	M	23	4	W	25	4		28	3	S	1
5	T	5	5	S	8	5	S	8	5	W	11	5	F	13	5	M	16	5	W	18	5	S	21	5	T	24	5	T	26			Nov	4	M	2
6	F	6	6	M	9	6	M	9	6	T	12	6	S	14	6	T	17	6	T	19	6	S	22	6	W	25	6	F	27	5	S	1	5	T	3
7	S	7	7	T	10	7	T	10	7	F	13	7	S	15	7	W	18	7	F	20	7	M	23	7	T	26	7	S	28	6	M	2	6	W	4
8	S	8	8	W	11	8	W	11	8	S	14	8	M	16	8	T	19	8	S	21	8	T	24	8		27			Oct	7	T	3	7	T	5
9	M	9	9	T	12	9	T	12	9	S	15	9	T	17	9	F	20	9	S	22	9	W	25	9		28	8	S	1	8	W	4	8	F	6
10	T	10	10	F	13	10	F	13	10	M	16	10	W	18	10	S	21	10	M	23	10	T	26			Sep	9	M	2	9	T	5	9	S	7
11	W	11	11	S	14	11	S	14	11	T	17	11	T	19	11	S	22	11	T	24	11	F	27	10		1	10	T	3	10	F	6	10	S	8
12	T	12	12	S	15	12	S	15	12	W	18	12	F	20	12	M	23	12	W	25	12	S	28	11	M	2	11	W	4	11	S	7	11	M	9
13	F	13	13	M	16	13	M	16	13	T	19	13	S	21	13	T	24	13	T	26			Aug	12	T	3	12	T	5	12	S	8	12	T	10
14	S	14	14	T	17	14	T	17	14	F	20	14	S	22	14	W	25	14	F	27	13	S	1	13	W	4	13	F	6	13	M	9	13	W	11
15	S	15	15	W	18	15	W	18	15	S	21	15	M	23	15	T	26	15	S	28	14	M	2	14	T	5	14	S	7	14	T	10	14	T	12
16	M	16	16	T	19	16	T	19	16	S	22	16	T	24	16	F	27			Jul	15	T	3	15		6	15	S	8	15	W	11	15	F	13
17	T	17	17	F	20	17	F	20	17	M	23	17	W	25	17	S	28	16	S	1	16	W	4	16	S	7	16	M	9	16	T	12	16	S	14
18	W	18	18	S	21	18	S	21	18	T	24	18	T	26		L	Sol	17	M	2	17	T	5	17		8	17	T	10	17	F	13	17	S	15
19	T	19	19	S	22	19	S	22	19	W	25	19	F	27	18	S	1	18	T	3	18	F	6	18	M	9	18	W	11	18	S	14	18	M	16
20	F	20	20	M	23	20	M	23	20	T	26	20	S	28	19	M	2	19	W	4	19	S	7	19	T	10	19	T	12	19	S	15	19	T	17
21	S	21	21	T	24	21	T	24	21	F	27			Jun	20	T	3	20	T	5	20	S	8	20	W	11	20	F	13	20	M	16	20	W	18
22	S	22	22	W	25	22	W	25	22	S	28	21	S	1	21	W	4	21	F	6	21	M	9	21	T	12	21	S	14	21	T	17	21	T	19
23	M	23	23	T	26	23	T	26			May	22	M	2	22	T	5	22	S	7	22	T	10	22	F	13	22	S	15	22	W	18	22	F	20
24	T	24	24	F	27	24	F	27	23	S	1	23	T	3	23	F	6	23	S	8	23	W	11	23	S	14	23	M	16	23	T	19	23	S	21
25	W	25	25	S	28	25	S	28	24	M	2	24	W	4	24	S	7	24	M	9	24	T	12	24	S	15	24	T	17	24	F	20	24	S	22
26	T	26			Mar			Apr	25	T	3	25	T	5	25		8	25	T	10	25	F	13	25	M	16	25	W	18	25	S	21	25	X	X
27	F	27	26	S	1	26	S	1	26	W	4	26	F	6	26	M	9	26	W	11	26	S	14	26	T	17	26	T	19	26	S	22	26	M	23
28	S	28	27	M	2	27	M	2	27	T	5	27	S	7	27	T	10	27	T	12	27	S	15	27	W	18	27	F	20	27	M	23	27	T	24
		Feb	28	T	3	28	T	3	28	F	6	28	S	8	28	W	11	28	F	13	28	M	16	28	T	19	28	S	21	28	T	24	28	W	25
29	S	1	L			29	W	4	29	S	7	29	M	9	29	T	12	29	S	14	29	T	17	29	F	20	29	S	22	29	W	25	29	T	26
30	M	2				30	T	5	30	S	8	30	T	10	30	F	13	30	S	15	30	W	18	30	S	21	30	M	23	30	T	26	30	F	27
31	T	3				31	F	6				31	W	11				31	M	16	31	T	19				31	T	24				31	S	28

N.B.—The groups of three columns between the heavier rulings represent the calendar months of the present and proposed Almanacs as indicated by their—1st columns which show the dates for 1905 and 1916, 2nd columns denoting the days of the week, whilst the 3rd columns give their equivalent dates in the **proposed 13 months' calendar.**

It will be noticed that the insertion of the proposed "new month" would equate *the year by gradations through each of the present 12 months; the difference increasing to 14 days at July 1, thence decreasing to re-union at Christmas.*

Below are given the comparative dates of the Holidays and customary Festivals. *The dates under the "Proposed Style" are exactly as they fall in 1916, except that Whitsuntide is suggested a week later at the month-end, and "Independence" and "Thanksgiving" Days each moved a day to gain week-end extra-holiday advantages:—*

	Year 1916 Dates.		Proposed Style's Suggested Dates.
St. David's Day	March 1	...	March 4
St. Patrick's Day	March 17	...	March 20
Lady Day	March 25	...	March 28
Good Friday	April 21	...	April 27
{Easter Sunday	April 23	...	May 1 }
{St. George's Day	April 23	...	May 1 }
{Leap Day (Holiday) ...	Feb. 29	...	June 28 }
{Whit-Sunday	June 11	...	*Sol. 1* }
Independence Day (U.S.A.)	*July 4*	...	*Sol. 16*
August Bank Holiday ...	Aug. 7	...	Aug. 2
Michaelmas Day	Sept 29	...	Sept. 20
Martinmas Day	Nov 23	...	Nov. 19
Thanksgiving Day (U.S.A.)	*Nov 24*	...	*Nov. 20*
St. Andrew's Day	Nov 30	...	Nov. 26
Christmas Day	Dec. 25	...	Dec. 22

L Leap Day, instead of being on February 29th is proposed to be held in Mid-Summer as a duplicate Saturday Holiday on June 28 L, to combine with week-end and Whitsuntide Holidays.